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Remarks:

Attached is a copy of a letter from Senator Fulbright to the Director concerning S. 2188. Will you please furnish me with suggestions for appropriate reply. I am asking for DD/I comments and will put these ideas in a final letter for DCI signature.

STAT

John S. Warner

Suspense date: 24 August 1959

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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO. DATE

OGC/LC - 221 East 19 Aug 59

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28 AUG 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. John Warner

SUBJECT:

S-2188

1. Specific Comments. These comments cover those aspects of the S-2188 which directly affect the Clandestine Services.

2. CIA Membership in the Proposed Council. (Page 3, lines 6	& 7 .)
It is recommended that CIA be eliminated from membership in	the
proposed Council.	

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It might be pointed out to Senator Fulbright that CIA's membership would interfere with the stated aims of the Council. CIA membership would "brand" the Council's efforts as part of the U.S. intelligence effort.

3. Council Authority to Secure Information. (Page 6, lines 3 to 10.) This provision raises the old Executive versus Legislative Branch of government dispute with regard to disclosure of information. The language used may be routine legislative terminology which would not affect CIA procedures. If it is not, an understanding should be developed with regard to CIA information. It might be well to caution Senator Fulbright in this regard.

4. General Comments.

Anybody in the Executive Branch of government is faced by a difficult problem when asked to comment on such proposals. In large measure such proposals arise from the general lack of knowledge available to the public sector with regard to what is being done in this field. The fact is, that a great deal has been developed over the past ten years. Much of this, however, is highly classified or at least the government's interest therein is classified. If the government's interest were not classified, the programs would be without effect.

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This particular proposal differs from past proposals and may, if properly implemented, be of some value. If it were certain that the efforts of the Council would be directed toward the provision of a common purpose and understanding of the problem to which S-2188 addresses itself, to both private and public institutions, the Clandestine Services feel a useful purpose would be served.

Such unity of purpose and understanding exists in the Communist World. That World now assaults the Free World with an effective combination of a revolutionary ideology, the combined force of twelve totalitarian governments, and popular mass movements led by seventy-five Communist Parties supported by innumerable fronts and auxiliary organizations.

On the Free World side, the fight against Communism has always been considered a government function only -- and not even a function of the entire government, but primarily of its intelligence, security and propaganda agencies. The proposed Council could be of great assistance to the Free World effort against the advance of World Communism. It would be an authoritative, nonpartisan, non-government unit providing common understanding of the threat and common understanding of the possible roles, the potentials, and the responsibilities of such free institutions as political parties, management, labor, all media of mass communications, and educational institutions.

It is difficult, however, to read into the language of S-2188 these purposes. Most likely the Council would be no more nor less than a statutory body which would be permissive of Legislative branch incursion into Executive branch functions. If the efforts of the Council are directed only toward "investigation" of current government programs, the result would be a violation of the doctrine of "separation of powers." If such is the purpose of S-2188, it should be opposed.

The proposed Council does have an advantage over past proposals. Past attempts, mostly abroad, have unfortunately been sponsored by the "lunatic fringe," as experience with the Anit-Comintern, the proposed "Democrintern" or "World Anti-Communist League" etc. have shown. This Council would have significant stature.

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UNITED STATES SENATE

Committee On Foreign Relations

August 13, 1959

Honorable Allen W. Dulles Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

Enclosed is a copy of S. 2188, "To provide for the establishment of a Citizens' Council for Advocacy of Freedom", which was introduced by Senator Wiley (for himself and others) on June 16, 1959.

The Committee would appreciate having the comments of the Central Intelligence Agency on this bill.

Very truly yours,

/S/

J. W. Fulbright Chairman

Enclosure